

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 SCSE-00 SCA-01 SP-02 PRS-01

COME-00 FAA-00 DOTE-00 CAB-05 SSO-00 /032 W
----- 066129

O P 261727Z JUN 75
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4288
INFO AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM PRIORITY

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 5787

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, CASC, BE, US
SUBJECT: AIR CLUB INTERNATIONAL

1. PANAM BRUSSELS OFFICE HAS NOT YET RECEIVED GO-AHEAD FROM PANAM NEW YORK TO PROCESS STRANDED ACI PASSENGERS FOR RETURN TO SEATTLE. IT APPEARS THAT PANAM APPROVAL BEING HELD UP NOT BECAUSE OF CAB DELAY BUT BECAUSE AIRLINE EXPECTS GUARANTEE OF PAYMENT BEFORE MAKING COMMITMENT TO CARRY PASSENGERS.

2. WHEN AND IF PANAM IS SATISFIED IT CAN PROCEED THERE WILL BE ADDITIONAL PROBLEM OF FINDING SPACE ON PANAM FLIGHTS FROM BRUSSELS (OR AMSTERDAM) TO NEW YORK AND POINTS WEST. FINAL WEEK OF JUNE IS END OF SHOULDER PERIOD FOR AIRLINE FARES AND FLIGHTS ARE THEREFORE NEARLY FULL. PANAM HAS ONLY OFFERED TO CARRY ACI STRANDEES ON STANDBY, SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS.

3. BEST ESTIMATE OF NUMBER OF ACI PASSENGERS DEPENDING ON PANAM ALTERNATIVE IS AROUND 65. MONEY PROBLEMS (PARA 1 ABOVE) AND SPACE PROBLEMS (PARA 2) BOTH APPARENTLY PRESENT DIFFICULTIES. CAN DEPARTMENT, SUGGEST WAY OF OVERCOMING THEM?

4. TIME IS OF ESSENCE SINCE SOME PASSENGERS SICK, MANY ARE DISCOURAGED AND HAVE ALMOST EXHAUSTED FUNDS. POSSIBILITY EXISTS OF LARGE NUMBER REPATRIATION CASES IF SOLUTION NOT ARRANGED QUICKLY AT MINIMAL COST TO PASSENGERS.RENNER

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Message Attributes

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